



North Dakota Aeronautics Commission

Thursday, March 24, 2022 – 3:00 PM
Aeronautics Commission Conference Room
Bismarck, ND

Chairperson Warren Pietsch called the meeting of the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission to order at 3:00 PM on Thursday, March 24th, 2022.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Warren Pietsch, Chairperson
Kyle Humann, Vice-Chairperson
Kim Kenville, Member
Jay B. Lindquist, Member
Cindy Schreiber-Beck, Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Kyle Wanner, Director
Mike McHugh, Aviation Education Coordinator
Adam Dillin, Airport Planner
Nels Lund, Airport Planner
Gaye Niemiller, Admin Officer

OTHER PRESENT:

Shae Helling, Bismarck Aero Center

Warren Pietsch called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and roll call was made.

1/28/22 Meeting Minutes – Approved as is.

Financial Statements – Gaye reviewed January and February 2022 financial statements. No changes were requested.

Director Monthly Recap - Kyle provided a review of recent Aeronautics staff activities.

Mike highlighted his travels and conversations for a high school program to begin in Kindred. Mike is also leading NASAO on a special task force and the UND workforce development grant. Dates have also been identified in June for the Workforce Development event where teachers will be introduced to learning opportunities that are available in aviation. Bottineau and Watford City are targeting opportunities in unmanned aircraft, with a focus on drones, and bringing drone racing back to their schools.

Kyle and Adam have been involved in discussions with the Casselton Airport, the FAA and engineers, regarding a potential runway shift that would allow for future expansions to occur.

Aeronautics staff also had multiple ongoing discussions with the PCI Consultant team to review and discuss the newly acquired airport PCI data. The project will be finalized this Spring.

Additionally, Kyle and Mike met with representatives on the North Dakota Grand Farm project to begin discussions on their project and interest in site locations in the vicinity of airports. The goal is to ensure that no negative impact to airport operations occurs within the parameters of the future operating site.

Kyle met with Greg and Tim from the Bismarck Airport to discuss future development plans of the general aviation area on the airport grounds and how that may impact the Aeronautics Commission's office space.

Kyle also updated the commissioners on his recent election to the NASAO executive board.

Jamestown/Devils Lake Air Service Discussion – On March 9th, Kyle and Adam participated on a webinar with SkyWest Airlines as the company announced their decision to request an end to air service at the Jamestown and Devils Lake airports, along with 27 other communities located outside of North Dakota. The airline is contractually obligated to provide service to Jamestown and Devils Lake through June 30th, 2022, as a part of the Essential Air Service program. The US Department of Transportation responded to the request stating that they would hold SkyWest to their contractual obligations while opening an RFP to request bid proposals from other airlines. Aeronautics staff will continue to monitor the situation.

Aviation Education Grant – Mike reviewed the request from NDAA regarding a funding request for Bismarck's Aviation Career Day which is going to be held in-person this year. Shae Helling, from Bismarck Aero Center discussed the educational value provided to the students and that participation is usually 750-850 kids in the one-day event. Mike recommended reimbursement at 100% of eligible expenses instead of the 50% of total funding originally asked for in the application. Kim made a motion to approve reimbursement at 100% of eligible expenses up to \$3,000. Cindy seconded the motion. Kim - yes, Jay B - yes. Cindy - yes, Kyle - yes, Warren – yes. Motion carried.

Fly-ND Conference Recap – The Fly-ND Conference was held in Fargo, March 6-8, 2022. It was an in-person conference with an overall attendance of 250-275 people, with majority of positive reviews from the attendees.

Portfolio reports – Cindy reported that there was also good attendance at the Tri-State Aerial Applicators Convention in Grand Forks. Seventy-nine North Dakota pilots and operators attended the Professional Aerial Applicators Support System (PAASS) program.

Other business –

Reminder to commissioners that they May 26th, 2022, meeting is in-person at the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission Conference Room and will include the Chair-elect vote. The annual grant meeting is still scheduled for June 16th, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Bismarck Airport Terminal.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.